



Dante Alighieri Society of Massachusetts  
*Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri - PLIDA 104*

### ***The PLIDA program***

*PLIDA* stands for Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri (Dante Alighieri Project for Italian Language). The *PLIDA* program aims at creating a modern course of study in Italian that will be more dynamic, engaging and proficiency-oriented than in the past. In this important process and in order to ensure our students the best of this program, the Cambridge Dante is working in close cooperation with the Central Headquarters of the Dante Alighieri Society\* in Rome, its language committee, and the Scholastic Office of the Boston Consulate General.

The *PLIDA* program follows the guidelines of the European Committee for the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Hence, the program aims to implement the procedures for language learning concerning the four basic linguistic competencies (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) with a particular focus on cultural matters, as suggested by this Committee. Students will learn to hone their language skills and to develop strategies that they can employ progressively to improve their expertise in each of the above competencies.

### ***Our approach***

As *PLIDA* instructors, our most important objective is to enable our students to *communicate* in Italian (i.e. to be able to transmit information back and forth in a given context), rather than just speak it with rigid, memorized phrases. Our approach is *communicative*, meaning that students will solely be addressed in Italian from day one and that functions, vocabulary, and grammar will be introduced in a conversational and contextualized atmosphere. Practice in the target language and interaction with both the instructor and with peers will be critical, as well as students' active participation in *discovering* grammar rules with help from the instructor. We design our classes to be proficiency-driven, therefore we will provide our students with as many opportunities as possible to hear and speak Italian. We believe that our students are the real center of our classes and we like to think of ourselves more as coordinators than as teachers. This is because we trust that the more students participate in the class the more easily they will master the target language.

### ***Course description and objectives***

**This course starts level A2 (Elementary)** of language proficiency as according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. It is designed for students with a beginner

knowledge of Italian and it aims to help students enrich their knowledge of verb tenses, refine their vocabulary related to common and familiar contexts, and exchange simple information with greater precision and confidence.

By the end of this class, students will be able to:

- Give a brief presentation on someone;
- Express their interests and a simple opinion about something;
- Explain their reasons for a choice;
- Ask for information on train fares and times, read a train time schedule, and buy a train ticket;
- Express a wish;
- Give advice in a polite way;
- Describe clothes;
- Talk about life-styles and habits in the past;
- Tell about a misadventure that happened to them;
- Make comparisons between people and things in the present and in the past.

By the end of this level, students will also:

- Have a good knowledge of the Italian public transportation system;
- Get to know some of the most important Italian *icons* in the world;
- Be informed about popular Italian music festivals.

### ***Textbooks***

- Savorgnani/Alberti, *Chiaro! A2, Corso di italiano, Libro dello studente e eserciziario*. Prima edizione. Alma Edizioni, Firenze, Aprile 2011. (The textbook can be purchased at the Dante Alighieri in Cambridge)
- Recommended grammar of reference: *Practice Makes Perfect: Complete Italian Grammar* (Practice Makes Perfect Series), by Marcel Danesi, McGraw-Hill Companies, 2009.
- Students are also encouraged to purchase an Italian/English dictionary.

### ***Attendance and Participation***

Although attendance is not mandatory for this class, we recommend that you come regularly. In class, you will be invited to participate actively and constructively in all the activities in order to practice acquired knowledge and make the best of your communication skills in Italian. It's in class that you will find people to practice with and someone who will help you understand your mistakes. And remember: Don't be shy! You are here to learn and making mistakes is a natural part of the learning process. After all mistakes are part of the fun!

**Emergency Contacts:**

In case of an emergency, students can receive the school cancellation notice on the TV stations NBC Channel 7 News and CW Channel 56. They can also be notified on their cell phones by going to [www.whdh.com](http://www.whdh.com) and click on "Snow Day Alert". Students will need to input their cell phone number, the name of the carrier and can choose the schools they are interested in hearing about. Students can easily add or remove schools from their profile at any time.

***Calendar:***

Data	Obiettivi della lezione
Lezione 1	<p><b>Rinfreschiamo il nostro Italiano!</b></p> <p><b>Obiettivi comunicativi:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentarsi e presentare, chiedere e dare informazioni personali, chiedere e dire l'ora, chiedere e parlare delle abitudini e delle attività quotidiane e del fine settimana, esprimere preferenze, raccontare e chiedere di un evento passato.</li> </ul>
Lezione 2	<p><b>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Le quattro forme del sostantivo (maschile, femminile, singolare, plurale), la concordanza del sostantivo e dell'aggettivo, l'articolo determinativo e indeterminativo, il <i>Presente</i> indicativo di verbi regolari, di alcuni verbi irregolari in <i>-are, -ere, -ire</i> e dei verbi riflessivi, il <i>Passato Prossimo</i> dei verbi regolari e di alcuni verbi irregolari in <i>-are, -ere, -ire</i>, vocabolario relativo a: presentazioni personali, numeri, la vita quotidiana.</li> </ul> <p><b>Lezione 1: L'Italiano è bello!</b></p> <p><b>Obiettivi comunicativi:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fare una breve presentazione di una persona</li> <li>- esprimere i propri interessi ed un'opinione semplice</li> <li>- motivare una scelta</li> </ul> <p><b>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Il verbo <i>piacere</i> + infinito o sostantivo</li> <li>- i pronomi indiretti (forme toniche e atone)</li> <li>- il superlativo relativo.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note culturali:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- L'Italiano nel mondo</li> </ul>

Data	Obiettivi della lezione
<p>Lezione 3</p> <p>e</p> <p>Lezione 4</p>	<p><b>Lezione 2: Viaggiare in treno</b></p> <p><b>Obiettivi comunicativi:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chiedere informazioni su tariffe e collegamenti ferroviari</li> <li>- saper leggere un tabellone con gli orari del treno</li> <li>- acquistare un biglietto del treno allo sportello della stazione</li> <li>- esprimere un desiderio</li> <li>- dare un consiglio in modo gentile</li> </ul> <p><b>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I verbi <i>volerci</i> e <i>bisogna</i></li> <li>- il <i>Condizionale Presente</i> dei verbi regolari in <i>-are, -ere, ire</i> e di alcuni verbi irregolari</li> <li>- l'aggettivo <i>qualche</i></li> <li>- gli avverbi in <i>-mente</i></li> <li>- vocabolario relativo al treno, alla stazione ed ai collegamenti ferroviari</li> </ul> <p><b>Nota culturale:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prendiamo il treno in Italia!</li> </ul>
<p>Lezione 5</p>	<p><b>Revisione delle lezioni 1 e 2</b></p> <p><b>Quiz I sulle lezioni 1 e 2</b></p>

Data	Obiettivi della lezione
<p>Lezione 6</p> <p>e</p> <p>Lezione 7</p>	<p><b>Lezione 3: Epoche e mode</b></p> <p><b>Obiettivi comunicativi:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- descrivere l'abbigliamento/i vestiti</li> <li>- parlare di situazioni e stili di vita del passato</li> <li>- confrontare persone e cose presenti e passate</li> </ul> <p><b>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- L'Imperfetto dei verbi regolari in <i>-are, -ere, -ire</i> e di alcuni verbi irregolari</li> <li>- il comparativo (forme regolari)</li> <li>- vocabolario relativo alla moda e all'abbigliamento/ai vestiti.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nota culturale:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- La moda italiana e il "made in Italy".</li> </ul>
<p>Lezione 8</p> <p>e</p> <p>Lezione 9</p>	<p><b>Lezione 4: Il ritmo della vita</b></p> <p><b>Obiettivi comunicativi:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Raccontare una disavventura</li> <li>- raccontare episodi della propria vita</li> <li>- descrivere abitudini passate</li> <li>- parlare dei propri gusti musicali.</li> </ul> <p><b>Obiettivi grammaticali e lessicali:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Differenza nell'uso del <i>Passato Prossimo</i> e dell'<i>Imperfetto</i></li> <li>- vocabolario relativo alla musica</li> <li>- espressioni di tempo come <i>da bambino, da ragazzo, da giovane, ecc.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Nota culturale:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Andiamo ad un concerto in Italia!</li> </ul>

<b>Data</b>	<b>Obiettivi della lezione</b>
Lezione 10	<b>Quiz II sulle lezioni 3 e 4</b>  <b>Presentazioni finali</b>